

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00277 031124Z

13-12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-11 ORM-02 /080 W

----- 025062

R 030859Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2763

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ZA

SUBJECT: THREE BRITISH CITIZENS DETAINED UNDER STATE OF
EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

REF: LUSAKA 235 AND 265

1. ZAMBIAN PRESS REPORTS THAT OVER WEEKEND POLICE TOOK INTO
CUSTODY TWO BRITISH JOURNALISTS, BRUCE LOWDEN OF DAILY TELEGRAPH
AND STUART DALBY OF FINANCIAL TIMES, AS WELL AS LIONEL CLIFFE,
BRITISH LECTURER IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA.
TIMES OF ZAMBIA REPORTS HOME AFFAIRS MILNER AS CONFIRMING
DETENTION OF LOWDEN AND DALBY BUT DECLINING OFFER EXPLANATION
FOR DETENTION AT THIS TIME. CLIFFE'S DETENTION CONFIRMED BY
HIS AMCIT WIFE TO BOTH PRESS AND TO EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER.

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2. BASED ON INFORMATION GLEANED FROM OTHER FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

NOW IN LUSAKA, LOWDEN AND DALBY PROBABLY DETAINED FOR FILING TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS IN WHICH REFERENCE WAS MADE TO ALLEGED PASSAGE THROUGH ZAMBIAN TERRITORY INTO ANGOLA BY UNITA TROOPS. OTHER FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WHO ALSO HAD THIS STORY CAUTIOUSLY REFRAINED FROM REPORTING IT AND ASSUME THIS IS REASON WHY ONLY LOWDEN AND DALY WERE DETAINED.

3. ACCORDING MRS. CLIFFE, HER HUSBAND WAS DETAINED FOLLOWING SEARCH OF CLIFFE HOUSEHOLD AND AUTOMOBILE BY POLICE WHO TURNED UP COPIES OF LITERATURE ON ANGOLA. HUSBAND WAS THEN SERVED DETENTION ORDER BY POLICE. IN REPORTING INCIDENT TO US, MRS. CLIFFE INDICATED SHE WORRIED THAT POLICE MIGHT RETURN TO ARREST HER BECAUSE SOME OF DOCUMENTS ON ANGOLA WERE FOUND IN HER PURSE. SHE DID NOT REVEAL CONTENTS OF THESE DOCUMENTS. CLIFFE HAS REPUTATION LOCALLY OF BEING SOMEWHAT MARXIST IN ORIENTATION BUT NOT TYPE OF POLITICAL ACTIVIST WHO WOULD IMMEDIATELY BE SUSPECTED OF AGITATING AMONG STUDENTS.

4. ROAD BLOCKS ESTABLISHED IMMEDIATELY AFTER PROCLAMATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY CONTINUE TO BE MANNED, IN LUSAKA AREA AT LEAST, BY REGULAR POLICE RATHER THAN MILITARY OR PARAMILITARY POLICEMEN. MOST VEHICLES, INCLUDING THOSE WITH DIPLOMATIC TAGS, ARE BEING WAVED THROUGH WITHOUT INSPECTION BUT SOME, PARTICULARLY THOSE CONTAINING WHITES AND FOREIGNERS, ARE BEING PULLED OVER AND SEARCHED. ROAD BLOCKS SO FAR DIFFER LITTLE FROM THOSE OFTEN THROWN UP BY ZAMBIAN POLICE ON WEEKENDS TO CHECK FOR MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS. DESPITE TRAFFIC DELAYS, THEY ARE BEING TAKEN IN STRIDE BY ZAMBIAN POPULATION AND HAVE SO FAR APPEARED TO AROUSE LITTLE PUBLIC RESENTMENT.

WILKOWSKI

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